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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/786,622	02/24/2004	Kazumasa Inoue	TKMTP127	2045
22434	7590	05/16/2007	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER LLP P.O. BOX 70250 OAKLAND, CA 94612-0250			CHEUNG, WILLIAM K	
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1713				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/786,622	INOUE ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
William K. Cheung	1713	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2007.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1, 10 and 12-17 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1 and 10 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ . 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. The examiner acknowledges the receipt of the argument filed February 21, 2007.

Claims 1, 10, 12-17 are pending. Claims 12-17 are drawn to non-elected subject matter.

Claims 1, 10 are examined with merit.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claims 1, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kerkar et al. (US patent 5,604,273) in view of Ohta et al. (US Patent 5,660,626), further in view of Berke et al. (US Patent 5,571,319), and yet, still further in view of Kloetzer et al. (US Patent 4,927,463) for the reasons adequately set forth from paragraph 3 of the office action of October 27, 2006.

4. Claims 1, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kerkar et al. (US patent 5,604,273) in view of Ohta et al. (US Patent 5,660,626), further in view of Kloetzer et al. (US Patent 4,927,463) for the reasons adequately set forth from paragraph 4 of the office action of October 27, 2006.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed February 21, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that Kerker et al. (col. 3, line 12-31) disclose a structure that is not a product of the second or the third process for preparing the component A of claim 1. However, the structure of Kerker et al. meets the structure of the first process for preparing the component A of claim 1. Applicants must recognize that the claimed first, second, and third processes are written in the form of a Markush group (claim 1, line 5-7).

Although applicants argue that Ohta et al. (col. 9, line 25-29) only disclose the use of diethylene glycol dipropylene glycol monobutyl ether, not the polypropyleneglycol monoalkyl ether as claimed, applicants fail to recognize that Ohta et al. (col. 2, line 13) broadly teach the use of oligoalkyleneglycol monoalkylethers which include the propyleneglycol monoalkyl ether as claimed. Applicants must recognize that the recitation of "diethylene glycol dipropylene glycol monobutyl ether" is merely one of the many examples of the broad teachings of oligoalkyleneglycol monoalkylethers. In view of the number of carbon ranges as used in the examples (col. 2, line 13-18), the examiner has a reasonable basis that the claimed polypropyleneglycol monoalkyl ether is inherently possessed in Ohta et al.

In view of the reasons set forth above, the rejection of claims 1, 10 is maintained.

Priority

6. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Japan on March 3, 2003. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the 2003-55175 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William K. Cheung whose telephone number is (571) 272-1097. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00AM to 2:00PM; 4:00PM to 8:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David WU can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



William K. Cheung, Ph. D.

Primary Examiner

May 11, 2007

WILLIAM K. CHEUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER